

# POWER SOURCE<sup>®</sup>

A Corporate Publication of Santee Cooper<sup>®</sup>

SPRING 2004

*Coal: King of Fuels for  
South Carolina's Energy Future*

# ENVIRONMENTAL R&S

When you mention the word “environmental,” two additional words—responsibility and stewardship—come immediately to mind for those who recognize the value of protecting and improving our quality of life.

Preserving and protecting air and water quality and other natural resources are primary and priority considerations for all aspects of electric utility operations. That is a logical and responsible perspective to maintain to ensure we provide a vital service without adversely affecting the world in which we live and work.

It has been said often that one of the greater accomplishments in life is to leave our world in a better condition than we found it. That presents a major challenge and responsibility for energy providers, whose operations use natural resources, including air, water and fuels, to add net value to society.

Electric power is an essential service for providing, sustaining and increasing the levels of commerce and industry that

propel our economic growth and improve our quality of life.

It is important that with the addition of more efficient fuel-use technology on existing coal-fired generating units, Santee Cooper will be able to construct and operate two additional units without any substantial net increase in environmental discharges. Increasing net environmental efficiency will, in fact, help protect and improve air quality.

Employing this approach for protecting and improving the environment is a major commitment for Santee Cooper. Meeting all state and federal regulations and guidelines is the required thing to do and the right thing to do. It's what environmental stewardship is all about.

Two articles in this issue of PowerSource address diverse environmentally related subjects—coal as a fuel resource and sea turtles as a threatened species. Environmental sensitivity and environmental responsibility are inherent

*T. Graham Edwards  
Chairman — Board of Directors*

to both subjects. How Santee Cooper addresses each is a reflection of environmental stewardship — responding in a positive manner to protect and improve our air quality and to protect the survival of a threatened species of wildlife. I hope this information helps you understand how environmental responsibility and stewardship are important to Santee Cooper, to the customers we serve and to the Palmetto State.



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# COAL: STILL KING OF FUELS FOR SOUTH CAROLINA'S ENERGY FUTURE

*As South Carolina continues to grow, electric utilities in the Palmetto State have an obligation to meet the demands of their customers.*

As a major generator, transmitter and distributor of electric power for 1.8 million of the state's 4.1 million people, Santee Cooper must effectively plan to meet the increasing electrical requirements of a growing Palmetto State.

Having enough power, having reliable power and having power at the right price attract good-paying jobs to South Carolina. That was the case in the 1980s with Alcoa Mt. Holly and in the 1990s with Nucor Steel—two major employers in Berkeley County. These two examples serve as a strong indicator that at least in this part of South Carolina,

financial analysts and political prognosticators shouldn't write the obituary on the nation's manufacturing base.

But providing affordable power, while at the same time being mindful of a commitment to environmental responsibilities, has always been a challenge for the power industry. Utilities must provide power that makes both environmental and economic sense. In other words, business and industry need power they can afford, but production must not significantly affect air and water quality.

The generation landscape in the electricity business has changed dramatically

**Left:** A 100-unit coal train of all-aluminum rail cars being unloaded at Winyah Station.

**Above:** Equipment Operator Willie Robinson at the controls of Cross Station's rotary-dump unloading facility.



in the last few years. In the late-1990s, the answer was natural gas. In rapid-fire fashion, utilities announced plans for constructing new generating capability utilizing natural gas as a fuel source. Santee Cooper was no exception.

Santee Cooper started from square one. The state-owned utility had no gas-fired facilities until the first 508 megawatts of the John S. Rainey Generating Station in Anderson County went online in January 2002. Today, that facility has added five additional units and is capable of generating nearly 1,110 MWs, or enough power to supply more than 500,000 average-sized homes.

Adding a different type of fuel source changed what is known as Santee Cooper’s “fuel mix.” Ten years ago, Santee Cooper generated 81.3 percent of its power using coal. Of the rest, 11.1 percent came from nuclear (Santee Cooper owns one-third of S.C. Electric & Gas Co.’s V.C. Summer Nuclear Station), 3.4 percent was hydroelectric and 4.1 percent came from federal hydroelectric sources, purchased power and oil-fired combustion turbines.

**This page:** Utility Worker Wendy Benton uses compressed air to clean the rails in the coal-unloading process at Jefferies Station.  
**Opposite page:** An equipment operator dozes the coal pile at Jefferies Station to move the fuel for loading onto conveyor belts that deliver it to the generating facility.

“It is desirable and prudent to have a diversified fuel mix,” says Santee Cooper President and Chief Executive Officer Lonnie Carter. “This is what we set out to do by constructing the Rainey Station, and we’ve accomplished that.”

**Providing affordable power, while at the same time being mindful of a commitment to environmental responsibilities, has always been a challenge for the power industry.**

As the demand for natural gas increased, both at the industrial and consumer level, many utilities canceled construction plans for natural gas-powered plants they had announced. So, the attraction of natural gas to make electricity quickly evaporated.

“When natural gas prices spike, coal begins to sparkle.” That was the assessment of energy industry analyst Ken Silverstein, who writes UtiliPoint’s Issue Alert, a Web-based daily industry report.

In a January 2004 report, Silverstein tracked the transition occurring in the utility industry. “Back in 1990, amendments to the Clean Air Act passed, and many environmentalists breathed easier. Toxic emissions would be drastically cut, and as a consequence, electric utilities began to increasingly rely on natural gas because of its low cost and emissions. Coal’s foes began numbering coal’s days.”

He noted that predictions of coal’s demise are fading. “Strict environmental regulations have prompted utilities that depend on coal to install pollution

controls to cut emissions. Coal is not going anywhere for a long time, given that the growth in demand for power is expected to resume to about 2 percent a year. And, coal supplies are abundant while its cost is favorable when compared to other fuel sources, particularly natural gas, in which February futures contracts are trading at about \$7 per million BTUs, or about seven times that of coal.”

In fact, according to a recent report released by the National Mining Association, coal production is expected to increase 3.5 percent over 2003, an increase that is second only to the increase that took place in 2001.

As the dynamics of generation changed, the demand for electricity on Santee Cooper’s system marched on, with South Carolina’s population growing 15 percent from 1990 to 2000, according to the U.S. Census.

In Horry County, the heart of Santee Cooper’s three-county direct service territory, the population grew 36 percent, an increase of nearly 53,000 people. Georgetown County added nearly 10,000 people during that decade, and in Berkeley County, that figure was almost 14,000.

In 1995, Santee Cooper had 100,000 direct customers in these counties. Today, that figure is rapidly nearing 140,000, and it will continue to grow as the Grand Strand and Lowcountry draw new citizens with each passing year. The state’s 20 electric cooperatives, which have Santee Cooper as their energy source, have also grown at a rapid pace.

In 1995, the 15 electric cooperatives delivering Santee Cooper-generated power served 355,748 members. Today, the number of customers served by all 20 electric cooperatives has grown to more than 625,000. But with natural gas out

as a viable fuel source, what options does a major generator have?

While Santee Cooper is the state’s leader in clean, renewable “Green Power,” landfill gas-to-electricity projects, it can only provide a pittance of needed megawatts to power new schools, homes and businesses. Only 3 MWs of Green Power are online, representing a mere .09 percent of Santee Cooper’s total power supply in 2003.

“Even with a projected 20 MWs up and running in five years, Green Power simply cannot provide what we need large-scale,” Carter says. “But Green

Power is important. The methane gas is there at landfills throughout South Carolina, and we should take advantage of it.”

Solar power is not cost-effective and there’s no consistent wind in South Carolina to make power. Right now, serious talk of new nuclear power facilities is simply not acceptable to the public and Wall Street is wary of financing.

That leaves one solid, viable option: coal. And the good news about this fuel source is that utilities are learning to burn it cleaner all the time. Here are some quick facts about coal form the American Coal Council:

- Coal provides about 52 percent of U.S. electricity— more than double any other fuel source and five times more than gas, oil or hydroelectric power.
- In the 21st century, new baseload, coal-fired power plants will have a 29 percent cost advantage over plants fueled by natural gas.
- During the past 20 years, the average price of coal has increased only 4 percent. The price of natural gas has increased 211 percent. The price of crude oil: 51 percent. *[Editor’s note: Moderately increasing coal prices have helped keep Santee Cooper’s rates down. In 1983, the average price of power for residential customers was 5.02 cents per KWH. Ten years later, that figure was 6.98 cents per KWH.]*
- Every \$1 billion worth of coal production generates \$19 billion worth of electricity.
- Since the passage of the Clean Air Act in 1970, coal use has increased 77 percent. During that same period, sulfur dioxide emissions from all sources have declined 26 percent.

Here’s a sobering fact from the U.S. Geological Survey: The federal agency estimates there’s only enough proven natural gas reserves in the country to last 50 years. The coal situation is a night-and-day contrast to natural gas.

The U.S. has 230 billion tons of coal in reserve. At today’s consumption rates, that can last 230 years.

Santee Cooper buys and burns a lot of coal. Last year 7.6 million tons of the soft, black fuel were turned

into electricity. A new \$675 million 580-MW generating unit is projected to come online in 2007 at Cross Station. In 2009, a companion unit costing \$720 million will enter service. About 530,000 homes can be powered by these units.

Santee Cooper is the state’s leader in clean, renewable “Green Power.”

**This page:** Sequential photos show a rail car as it is tilted to discharge its 100 tons of coal in the rotary-dump facility at Cross Generating Station.  
**Opposite page:** Mile-long coal train unloads at Jefferies Generating Station.

Rotary couples allow rail cars to discharge their loads without having to be disconnected. Cars like these can be rotated or bottom-dumped to deliver their coal.

With the exception of some increases in carbon dioxide, the addition of these two massive generating units will essentially result in no net increase in air emissions from the plant. At this and other facilities over the next eight years:

- Santee Cooper will spend in excess of \$100 million on projects to reduce nitrogen-oxide emissions by 70 percent and sulfur-dioxide emissions by 50 percent.
- The most significant reductions in sulfur dioxide emissions will come at the four generating units at Georgetown County's Winyah Generating Station. Units 1 and 2 will have new, state-of-the-art scrubbers installed and fully operational by December 2008
- Existing sulfur-dioxide scrubbers at Winyah Units 3 and 4 will be upgraded to achieve increased sulfur-dioxide removal by December 2012.

Burning coal cleanly and efficiently simply makes environmental and economic sense for Santee Cooper.

It's been that way since 1977, when at Winyah Stations' 295-MW Unit 2, Santee Cooper became the first electric utility in the Southeast to install an SO<sub>2</sub> scrubber, which removes sulfur dioxide from the emissions.

It is very telling that of the 107 coal-fired generating units in the Carolinas and

Georgia, only seven of those units operate sulfur dioxide scrubbers. Of those seven scrubbed units, Santee Cooper owns and operates five of them.

"In life, we all face choices," Carter said. "Every time we start up our gasoline-powered cars, boats or ATVs, we are affecting air quality. It's simply the nature of burning fossil fuels. Cars burn gas much more efficiently since the late 1960s and early 1970s, when positive crankcase ventilation devices, catalytic converters and other devices helped curb emissions.

"It's the same in the electric power industry. By continually seeking newer and better ways to burn coal, we'll ensure a reliable and affordable supply of electricity while being mindful of our environmental responsibilities."

**Burning coal cleanly and efficiently simply makes environmental and economic sense for Santee Cooper.**

Sixty-inch wide conveyors deliver coal from the coal pile to the station's boilers for combustion.

# FAMILY BOAT BUILDERS FIND HOME IN BERKELEY COUNTY

*There's plenty of water in the Lowcountry that provides endless recreational opportunities.*

Take your pick. We've got freshwater on the world-famous Santee Cooper Lakes. We've got saltwater options galore, from marshes teeming with flounder to the deep blue Atlantic Ocean where anglers pursue marlin, wahoo or mahi mahi.

Of course, everyone who gets on the water needs one thing—a boat! While we've always had the water part covered, the area is now becoming famous not only for where boats are enjoyed, but also for where they're built.

Berkeley County can now rightfully boast that it's home to at least three boat manufacturing firms.

**Left:** Deck is lowered onto the hull of another Sea Fox boat.  
**Above:** Fred Renken, president; and Ed Renken, executive vice president of the family-owned boat-building facility.

One is a family owned business. It migrated up from James Island to occupy a former steel warehouse on U.S. 52, between Goose Creek and Moncks Corner. It's the home of the Mariah and Sea Fox boat-building facility, which receives Santee Cooper-generated power from Berkeley Electric Cooperative and water from the Berkeley County Water and Sanitation Authority that comes from the Santee Cooper Regional Water System Plant near Moncks Corner.

"We've been here since January of 2003, and it's been great," says company President Fred Renken. "This building really suited what we needed and here we have room to grow."

Renken's brother, Ed Renken, is the firm's executive vice president. When they were looking to relocate from James Island, he was immediately impressed by Berkeley County's pro-business attitude.

"County Supervisor Jim Rozier and his folks were a lot of help," he says. "So was the S.C. Department of Commerce. Leaving Charleston was a big step for us. So many folks have made us feel right at home here."

The firm's two product lines are manufactured in two sprawling 100,000 square-foot facilities that employ 140 people.

One brand is Mariah, their "sport boat." With 12 models ranging in length from 18 to 25.2 feet, these sporty, eye-catching runabouts excel in pulling water skiers or tubing enthusiasts on lakes and rivers. Of course, they're perfect for just cruising.

Mariah models come as bow riders, cuddy cabins and deck boats. Horsepower options start with a 135 h.p.

**This page:** Deck laminator sprays fiberglass and resin onto mold.  
**Opposite page:** Mariah, is a "sport boat," with 12 models that come as bow riders, cuddy cabins and deck boats.

outboard and go all the way up to a 300 h.p. inboard-outboard V-8, with lots of choices in between.

The other brand is called Sea Fox, and as the name implies, its forte is saltwater. It's perfect for inshore creeks, inlets and bays, and some models are big enough and equipped to go offshore.

Buyers may choose among 24 models, including center console, bay fisher, flats fox, walk around, dual console and deck boat models. Lengths start at 16 feet, 1 inch for an 80 h.p. center-console boat and go all the way up to a 28-footer sporting twin 250 h.p. engines.

All Mariah and Sea Fox models feature Mercury outboards or MerCruiser in-board/outboard engines. Selecting an engine provider was an important decision when the Renkens were putting the company together.

"Mercury is the last American-owned marine engine manufacturer," Ed Renken says. "We wanted to have a uniform product line and Mercury is very solid financially and they have great products. We're very pleased with them. Their saltwater line is as good as or better than anything else out there right now. And like the rest, they've gotten into 4-stroke engines, which use less fuel and are more environmentally friendly."

Renkens Continue Boat-Building Tradition That Began in Late 1950s

The Renken family began building boats on James Island in 1957, and the name Renken is synonymous with boats in the Lowcountry. Ed and Fred are third-generation boat

**"County Supervisor Jim Rozier and his folks were a lot of help with our relocation. So was the state commerce department."**  
**— Ed Renken**



*Sea Fox line of boats, as the name implies, is for saltwater, and is perfect for in-shore creeks, inlets and bays, and some models are big enough and equipped to go offshore.*

builders, and the Sea Fox line is a direct descendant in a long line of Renken boats. The Mariah line was purchased three years ago from a boat maker in the Midwest. Two things both lines provide: quality and value.

“I think we prove that choosing a quality boat with true craftsmanship and attention to detail can still be within the family budget,” Fred Renken says. “Every Sea Fox or Mariah is backed by our 10-year limited-transferable hull warranty. It’s one of the best warranties in the business.”



*Hull laminators complete the hand finishing of a new fiberglass Sea Fox hull.*

One theme to their building technique is the slogan, “No wood, no rot.” In the manufacturing process, both lines utilize something called the Fibre4System. It’s an all-fiberglass stringer approach that provides a wider, stronger stringer than wood.

In addition to a stronger platform, decks are fiberglassed to the broad stringer, resulting in a better bond

between a boat’s hull, stringers and deck. Boats are constructed of an all-composite core material that’s lighter and more durable than wood. This means strong floors, consoles and hatch lids. A backing for motor mounts is provided by an aluminum plate glassed into the hull.

“We have something called ‘closed-cell foam flotation,’” Fred Renken says. “Foam is injected into key areas of the hull and deck. This provides superior flotation and insulation. Plus, our hand-rolled fiberglass means few air pockets, plus a superior laminate.”

Prices for the Sea Fox line range from about \$10,000 up to \$60,000. The Mariahs start at \$15,900 and top out at about \$42,000. This includes the boat, motor and trailer for both lines.

**This page:** (Left) A deck freshly removed from its mold is flipped by cut-and-grind crew to begin trim work. (Right) A motor mechanic lowers a Mercury inboard-outboard engine into a Mariah.

**Opposite page:** Fork-lift operator adds another Sea Fox to the rack, ready for shipment.

Building a good boat is one thing. Selling it is quite another. Ed Renken handles the marketing end of things. No boats are sold directly to consumers from their headquarters. Ninety-four distributors worldwide and 74 in the U.S. sell their products.

“They’re all independent, family-run businesses,” says Ed Renken. “Ten or so sell both the Sea Fox and Mariah lines. The closest place locally to buy our boats is Renken Boat Center on Dorchester Road in North Charleston.”

Business is good. Sales are up 20 percent this year, and the company’s boats rank No. 2 in new boat registrations in Florida. In fact, managing growth has been the biggest challenge for the Renkens. People are buying their boats about as fast as they can build them, shrink wrap them and send them out to dealers on tractor-trailer trucks.

It’s been a meteoric climb in a competitive business. Their first year, 1995, saw sales of about \$800,000. Last year that figure was \$40 million. This year, they’re expecting sales to hit \$51 million.

“The toughest thing is handling all this growth,” Fred Renken says. “Most of the problems we have are good problems. We’re building between 60 and 70 boats a week. In five years, we hope to reach \$100 million in sales.

All boats are built to order and it takes about four to six weeks to get a boat.”

He says their in-house motto is “high-end Cadillac look with a Chevrolet price.” The Mariah was a perfect fit for that. “It’s the Rolls-Royce of runabouts,” says Renken. “We bought their very stylish design and put our concept on it.”

Boats now sport compact disc players and premium sound systems, and some of their models even have restroom facilities.

The Renkens will continue improving, refining and positioning their product in a competitive marketplace. Although they have boat-building in their genes, what they’ve built up in a relatively short time wasn’t handed to them on a fiberglass platter.

“Ed and I were working for our father, and even though we were born in this industry, we had to start over,” Fred Renken says. “We really struggled.”

Those days are now gone and by all accounts, it’s smooth sailing ahead.

Boat Building Grows to Fit New Market in Berkeley County

The Renkens will soon have boat-building company in Berkeley County. Top Cat Marine Security, announced April 2 it’s relocating its operations from New York City to St. Stephen, S.C.

The following week, Quintrex Boats, Australia’s largest and leading aluminum-boat builder, announced that it is moving into a production facility in Berkeley County, where it will set up its main U.S. headquarters.

Top Cat makes high-performance boats used by defense, homeland security, port security and law enforcement. The \$2 million investment in the old Reliable Electric Building is projected to create 75 jobs within a year.

The company’s Cobra line of boats can reach speeds of 90 mph, features virtually bulletproof Kevlar hulls and can do all this in just 2 feet of water.

Quintrex plans to start production of its line of high-performance fishing boats in late April at a 35,000 square-foot manufacturing facility south of Moncks Corner.

First year production is expected to be from 350 to 400 boats. The company has made a \$5 million investment in the new location.

# BURNET RHETT MAYBANK... CHARLESTON MAYOR, S.C. GOVERNOR, U.S. SENATOR AND ONE OF SANTEE COOPER’S FOUNDERS

*Burnet Rhett Maybank can rightfully be considered one of Santee Cooper’s founders. He was in the vanguard of the fight for a hydroelectric and navigation project that he passionately felt would benefit his beloved Palmetto State and bring a source of publicly owned power to the people of South Carolina.*

Years before he became Santee Cooper’s first board chairman in 1934, Maybank shared the political stage upon which a long battle to build the project was fought. The Charleston native was right there with U.S. Sen. James F. Byrnes and two state senators—J. Strom Thurmond and Richard M. Jefferies.

It’s important to note all of these men eventually became governor, whose appointive power extends to the Santee Cooper board —thus making their influence on Santee Cooper’s early history even more striking.

Maybank and Jefferies worked at the state level, with Byrnes in Washington, to ardently shepherd the project through the most difficult times, until the final triumph came on May 23, 1938.

**Left:** Burnet R. Maybank when he was mayor of Charleston.  
**Above:** Maybank (center) with President Franklin D. Roosevelt during one of FDR’s visits to Charleston.

That’s when the U.S. Supreme Court decided the project could be built —despite nearly three years of legal and political maneuverings by powerful investor-owned utilities. But Maybank and Santee Cooper would not be stopped.

The story of Maybank and his relationship to the building of the Santee Cooper project is one of New Deal progressivism. The tale is illuminated against a backdrop of the Great Depression and the economic and social ills brought by an array of instability —from the city of Charleston’s dire financial condition to the day-to-day financial condition of people simply trying to provide for their families.

The prospect of employment for jobless South Carolinians was certainly one of the reasons the Santee Cooper project was eventually built. That motivated Maybank and others. But, as with most long stories, it’s more complicated than that.

Tough Times in Charleston

Just who was this man?

Burnet Rhett Maybank was born on March 7, 1899 in Charleston. He emerged from a distinguished lineage dating from Colonial times, critical to advancement in Charleston politics. A cotton broker by trade, the College of Charleston graduate left a lucrative job to run for mayor of Charleston. It was not the best of times to take over the Holy City.

He was elected in December 1932, when unemployment in Charleston was hovering at about 20 percent. The city was essentially broke. Big loans were coming due. Bold measures had to be implemented. Charleston was forced to pay its employees with pay warrants, or “script,” a promissory note to eventually pay wages due.

Issued in denominations of \$1, \$5 and \$10, script was used to varying degrees from 1932 to 1934. At times, workers received cash for wages along with script. Although not legal tender, all Charleston script issued

**This page:** Letter of resignation sent to Gov. Maybank by U.S. Sen. Jimmy Byrnes, which paved the way for Byrnes to accept appointment to the U.S. Supreme Court and eventually for Maybank to be elected as U.S. Senator filling Byrnes’ vacated seat.  
**Opposite page:** Maybank sits for a photo with Santee Cooper’s first board of directors at a gathering of dignitaries on the first day of project construction.

was eventually redeemed under Maybank’s administration. He also shored up Charleston’s finances, and eventually its abysmal credit rating, by collecting delinquent taxes on automobiles and other property and on all eligible property in the city that was on the tax books.

During Maybank’s tenure as mayor, 1932 to 1938, a new president was elected—Franklin D. Roosevelt. Maybank first met Roosevelt at the 1932 Democratic National Convention in Chicago. The future president had a meeting in which Maybank and Jefferies promoted the idea of a federally financed Santee Cooper project. Maybank and Roosevelt became friends, and the president visited Maybank in Charleston several times between 1935 and 1940.

It eventually became apparent that to get the money from Washington to finance the Santee Cooper project, a unique state agency would have to be created by the General Assembly. The first “Santee Cooper bill” was introduced in

the state Senate in April 1933 by Sen. Richard M. Jefferies of Walterboro and 27 other co-sponsors. Among them was Sen. J. Strom Thurmond of Edgefield. The bill was defeated.

In January 1934, 250 Santee Cooper supporters formed a statewide committee to support the project.

Maybank was in this group. He was also among the 66 committee members who boarded a special train in early February 1934, journeying from South Carolina to Washington to lobby the state’s congressional delegation and anyone else who would listen.

He stated that the “action of the federal government on the Santee Cooper project will decide the future of coastal South Carolina.”

Getting Santee Cooper Started

On Feb. 15, 1934, another Santee Cooper bill was introduced in the General Assembly, this one in the House. Success came less than two months later. On April 7, 1934, Gov. Ibra Blackwood signed legislation creating the S.C. Public Service Authority, whose purpose was to construct and operate the Santee Cooper Hydroelectric and Navigation

Project. No state funds would be used for this large endeavor, which eventually became the nation’s biggest land-clearing project and the largest federal Works Progress Administration project east of the Mississippi River during the New Deal.

On May 19, 1934, Gov. Blackwood appointed Santee Cooper’s first board, naming Maybank chairman. In his 1967 doctoral thesis at the University of North Carolina, author Marvin L. Cann wrote in “Burnet Rhett Maybank and the New Deal in South Carolina, 1931–1941” that Maybank didn’t seek the post.

“Maybank accepted the appointment reluctantly, since he was seriously considering entering the race for governor that spring,” Cann states. “He hardly expected to win the Democratic nomination, but it was common for an ambitious young man to involve himself in some level of statewide service to gain publicity before making a serious bid for the gubernatorial post. Apparently both Byrnes and Jefferies urged Maybank to accept the Santee Cooper chairmanship and to postpone his candidacy for governor until 1938.

“Bowling to the mature political judgment of men whom he respected, Maybank accepted the appointment in the hope that the Santee Cooper project would be of benefit to the entire state.”

On July 15, 1935, President Roosevelt sent a letter to Sen. Byrnes (actually authored by Byrnes) approving Public Works Administration financing of the project. Things looked even better for Santee Cooper’s future after the S.C. Supreme Court OK’d the validity of Santee Cooper bonds.

But on Christmas Eve 1935, three investor-owned utilities filed suit in federal court to block the project’s construction. This angered the Charleston mayor. Cann wrote in his thesis:

“Maybank used some of the choice words he had learned as a boy on the waterfront to castigate the power companies for their action. In his printable comments, he noted that other states had constructed publicly owned power plants and asked why South Carolina should not follow suit. He dismissed the complaint

Maybank talks to group of dignitaries at project start-up.

of public competition with private business, remarking that ‘all government activity competes to a certain extent with private enterprise and interests.’ He admitted that the action brought by the ‘ruthless power companies’ would delay the project, but pledged that the authority would ‘fight to the last ditch.’”

Maybank was there in Washington when the final triumph was announced. Cann wrote that “Maybank and Jefferies ‘sat with glum faces and the air of persons waiting for loved ones to come from an operating room’ in the Supreme Court chamber on May 23 (1938), awaiting the result of the appeal. When the court refused to review the case, they rushed out like schoolboys freed for vacation to inform Byrnes and to seek ways of expediting construction of the project.”

A power company executive “admitted that he knew of no further strategy to block the project. And so, four years and four days after the General Assembly had created the Santee Cooper authority, construction could legally begin.”

A Lot of Focus on Jobs

Once the project got under way, Chairman Maybank was swamped with job applications sent to the mayor’s office. There was so much correspondence concerning jobs and matters relating to the lengthy litigation that “extra secretarial help” was required.

Maybank stated in a July 16, 1936 letter to Byrnes, “For your information, I have spent about \$6,000 of my money...and \$7,000 of the city of Charleston’s money in the interest of the Santee Cooper project. The city’s money was spent in the employing of people to list, file and handle the 8,000 applications we received for jobs; to attend to construction companies, steel mills, cement factories and everybody else in the United States that saw me, wired me or telephoned me concerning the project.”

Cann wrote, “Maybank took little personal interest in these jobs, which paid only 40 cents an hour. While he received and answered thousands of letters requesting such jobs, normally he simply referred his correspondents to the central employment office and disavowed any influence over the employment practices of the authority.”

Burnet Maybank Jr. recalls his father’s close relationship with Sen. Jimmy Byrnes and President Roosevelt and his passion for getting the Santee Cooper project approved as an economic benefit for the Lowcountry and the Palmetto State.

In 1939, Maybank stepped down as Santee Cooper board chairman after his election as governor. His success of pursuing the Santee Cooper dream paid off at the polls and his deferred dream came true. As the state’s top executive officer and chairman of the Santee Cooper Advisory Board, he continued to support the project and kept a close eye on its fast-paced construction.



As governor, Maybank continued to respond to the numerous job requests he received from individuals looking for employment with the Santee Cooper project. “I wish there were something I could do to help you,” Maybank stated to one applicant in a June 6, 1939 letter. “But I do not have any jobs to give. If you know of any place where you might apply for work, I shall be glad to write a letter in your behalf.”



Maybank as featured in Fortune magazine in 1950, which included him among what they termed, “The 15 Most Influential Men in America.”

But Maybank’s influence or perceived influence in securing work for down-and-out South Carolinians was the focus of a 1940 investigation by the General Assembly. In March of that year, Santee Cooper’s director of land acquisition was let go for on-the-job shortcomings, which provided an impetus to the probe. “In his appearance before the legislative committee,” Cann wrote, “Maybank denied he was the ‘czar’ of the authority, or that he controlled the dispensation of jobs. He admitted that he had recommended many people for employment by all state agencies. ‘I only wish...that there were more jobs,’ he said ‘and that more of the poor people who come to my office could be helped.’ The governor’s office was the ‘last resort of the downtrodden, humble citizens of our state’ who ‘go to the business firms...they go to you and they go everywhere, and then they come to my office. I am not ashamed of it, senators, I have written hundreds of letters and begged for jobs.”

The Senate Judiciary Committee reported on April 30 that looking further into the allegations “would be ‘an unwarranted expenditure of state funds,’ ” Cann wrote. “The committee found no evidence of waste or mismanagement in the operation of the authority and no coercion or undue influence on the part of the governor in the employment practices of the agency. Its report noted that Maybank had frankly admitted referring job applicants to the authority just as he referred applicants to other departments and agencies.” Maybank once remarked that he’d gotten nothing out of the project “except headaches, heartaches and \$50 a month.” That was his compensation as chairman.

Maybank’s fortunes changed again in 1941 when Sen. Byrnes resigned to accept an appointment by President Roosevelt to the U.S. Supreme Court. In a close election, Maybank won Byrnes’ Senate seat.

Thanks in large part to his long-time friendship with Byrnes and President Roosevelt, Maybank was immediately appointed to two influential committees: Appropriations and Armed Services.

In 1950, Time and Fortune magazine published a special edition titled, “The 15 Most Influential Men in America.” Burnet R. Maybank was one of those men. But less than four years later, this mover and unshakable ally of Santee Cooper was dead.

Maybank died on Sept. 1, 1954 of a heart attack in Flat Rock, N.C., his summer home and a mountain getaway for generations of Charlestonians since before antebellum times.

Burnet Maybank’s brogue, influenced by Gullah-speaking childhood nurses, was an asset to the profound Lowcountry politician, but many folks in the South Carolina Upcountry had a difficult time following his exuberant staccato-style delivery. At his funeral a colleague remarked, “We all knew Burnet. We all loved Burnet. We all wanted to do what Burnet wanted us to do—if we could just have understood what that was.”

Close Ties to Byrnes and Roosevelt

Maybank’s son, Burnet R. Maybank Jr., 80 years old and an active resident of James Island, vividly remembers his father’s devotion to Santee Cooper.

“He obviously enjoyed being chairman, and that first group of the board that I knew, even as a young man, were an outstanding group of South Carolinians,” he said. “My father was a workaholic if there ever was one.”

Maybank Jr., who served Greenville County in the S.C. House and as lieutenant governor from 1958 to 1962, said his father and Byrnes enjoyed a special relationship.

“He was almost like a father to my dad,” he recalls. “We used to see a lot of Jimmy Byrnes. He would spend his summers at Sullivan’s Island.” The president also was no stranger to the Maybank household.

“He (Roosevelt) came to our house on Legare Street several times,” Maybank says. “We had a special chair made for him.

I can see him right now riding down East Bay Street in his big car. But he didn’t have a big entourage with him. It was so different back then.”

He also remembers the sparring his dad had with the editor of The News and Courier, William Watts Ball, who opposed the Santee Cooper project.

“Billy Ball was just an anti-New Dealer,” Maybank says. “That’s why he was against it. My father was for the project because he always felt our section of the country, for close to 100 years, had been badly neglected and badly treated.”

Burnet R. Maybank likely would be proud of what Santee Cooper has become, that it has attracted high-paying industries such as Alcoa Mt. Holly and Nucor. These early promises of the project, still being fulfilled today, are just part of the legacy of this man and his close allies. They are the ones who fought tirelessly to birth Santee Cooper and help bring South Carolina into the modern age.

# PROTECTING THE LOGGERHEAD TURTLE: A MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGE

*It's South Carolina's state reptile, yet it rarely, if ever, is seen by most people. It is delicate but also tough, endearing but somewhat overwhelming. Though lumbering on land, it is gracefully fluid in the ocean as it moves through the various stages of its life cycle. It probably attracts more attention and loving care from environmentally conscious individuals than any other amphibious creature. It is revered in some cultures as an omen of good luck and long life and is relished as a food source in others.*

*Caretta caretta*— also known as the loggerhead turtle in the Western Hemisphere, gets its name from its exceptionally large head. Found in temperate and subtropical waters throughout most of the world, it inhabits an enormous range extending from as far north as Newfoundland to as far south as Argentina, feeding upon sponges, jellyfish, mussels, clams, shrimp and a variety of crabs.

Loggerheads are brown to reddish brown. Adults generally weigh 200 to 300 pounds and have carapace (shells) 36 to 42 inches long. Newly hatched sea turtles have carapace about 2 inches long. It is unknown how long sea turtles live, although it is believed to be 80 to 100 years.

**Left:** A loggerhead hatchling takes its first swim.  
**Above:** Bumper sticker produced by Santee Cooper to promote sea-turtle protection.

For thousands of years the sandy shores along the Atlantic coastline have been used as a nesting ground for the now threatened loggerhead sea turtle. Continuing this ritual, each year between May and August, many of the remaining turtles still crawl from the surf to find a site for their nests. Finding a comfortable spot, each mother sea turtle uses her huge flippers, which normally propel her through the sea, to dig out a nest into the soft, warm sand so that she may lay 100 to 150 eggs. The eggs are then covered and the mother sea turtle returns to the sea, never to visit her nest again.

For the next 55 to 65 days, until the hatchlings emerge, the eggs are subject to many hazards. Among these are erosion, predators, wet weather, and, of course, people. However, many steps are being taken to help preserve the sea turtles, including programs that focus specifically on locating and protecting their vulnerable nests. Each year during nesting season, volunteers comb the beaches participating in what are commonly called “turtle-watch” programs.

**They daily walk the beaches in search of tell-tale turtle tracks and nests where clutches of eggs are hidden.**

Protection of loggerheads is a priority environmental issue for coastal areas stretching from the tip of Texas bordering Mexico, up along the Gulf Coast and around the Florida Keys and all of the way up the Atlantic Coastline to the top of Maine.

In many areas such as along the Carolina coast, turtle-watch programs begin each May and extend through October. Their primary purpose is to scout for tracks and

report the location of nests made by female loggerheads along the beach, and then inventory the nest after hatching.

The volunteers take action to protect nests from pedestrians, predators and the weather during the critical incubation period. In many cases, nests are adopted by local residents and turtle-watch groups, which track their progress and even publicize their locations in local newsletters.

Members also hold conferences with fellow turtle watchers along with marine and natural resource officials to coordinate efforts toward ensuring a high hatch rate and an accurate assessment of egg/hatchling numbers.

Emergency efforts are also made throughout nesting season by turtle-watch members whenever stranded or injured sea turtles are found. Normally sea turtles are far from the dangers of civilization, but during nesting season they are forced to come within the vicinity of human progress. They are often found with disabling or fatal injuries due to the carelessness or negligence of



*Loggerhead eggs resemble ping pong balls, however they are leathery in texture.*

people. Turtle-watch members contact local officials to bring professional help, but it is often too late for recovery of the beached turtles.

**Helping Sea Turtles Dig the Dark...**

In South Carolina, Santee Cooper joined in the chorus of turtle guardians more than 10 years ago, working with organizations such as the South Carolina United Turtle Enthusiasts (SCUTE) to preserve and protect loggerhead sea turtles. The state-owned electric and water utility supported the effort by

shielding lights and working to raise awareness about sea turtles through a public education program.

SCUTE coordinates volunteer efforts to preserve quality nesting habitat and to monitor nests. The group also works to control beachfront lighting, which disorients nesting female turtles and hatchlings. Thanks in part to the efforts of SCUTE, Georgetown County and the town of Pawleys Island passed ordinances to limit beachfront lighting along their beaches. Beachfront lighting has also been minimized in some areas of Horry County.

“I became hooked the first time I saw one of the tiny turtles hatch from its shell and begin the long arduous swim into the breaking waves,” says Santee Cooper Customer Communications Director Jill Watts.

The lighting ordinance that Georgetown County passed in the late 1980s was the impetus for Santee Cooper’s effort, according to Watts. “The residents and businesses in the Waccamaw Neck really wanted to take an active role in protecting the turtles, so once the ordinance was passed, we realized that the public needed to become aware of the plight of the sea turtle,” Watts says.

*Loggerheads usually nest at night. However, this female got a late start and was just leaving the beach at dawn.*

Santee Cooper’s awareness campaign consisted of a public service announcement made for TV and radio that included a catchy tune with the words “Sea Turtles Dig the Dark... Light up your Life...Turn out the Light...Sea Turtles Dig the Dark.”

A bumper sticker echoed the message, “Sea Turtles Dig the Dark,” and a brochure describing the nesting habits and challenges facing loggerheads was distributed at area

parks and by SCUTE volunteers at nest sites and during nest inventories.

“We even created a turtle mascot costume that was used for years at area festivals. Though the mascot is no longer in use, the awareness message is reinforced through the bumper stickers and the brochures. I see bumper stickers on cars throughout South Carolina and it always makes me smile knowing we’re a part of helping save these special creatures,” Watts says.

“SCUTE is a group of volunteers dedicated to sea

turtle conservation in Georgetown and Horry counties,” explains head coordinator Jeff McClary. The beach-loving, Kentucky-born wildlife biologist spends his days as an electrical contractor and all of the extra and in-between time that he can marshaling volunteers and caring for the welfare of sea turtles.

A volunteer checks for emergence activity with a stethoscope so as not to disturb hatchlings below the sand.

Organized in 1990, SCUTE is permitted by the S.C. Department of Natural Resources to protect and, if necessary, relocate turtle nests as well as record turtle deaths through the Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network.

McClary says that SCUTE annually records more than 100 loggerhead nests with more than 12,000 eggs along Horry and Georgetown County beaches. “We estimate 80 percent of the eggs result in hatchlings that make it safely to the ocean,” McClary says.

“Experience has shown, however, that as few as one in 10,000 hatchlings may grow to adulthood , which takes up to

Hatchlings emerge together as a group from the egg chamber.

30 years.” These low odds, he adds, make the SCUTE/Santee Cooper preservation effort essential to loggerhead sea turtle survival in South Carolina.

“It’s a day-to-day effort,” McClary says of the volunteers who have ranged in age from 9 to 83 years. Working to protect the survival of the loggerhead hatchlings, they are a dedicated, caring group of folks who appreciate and want to protect one of South Carolina’s important wildlife resources.

Concern for and protection of loggerheads covers a wide spectrum ranging from naturalists and scientists to beachcombers and writers. In her novel, author Mary Alice Monroe addresses the plight and protection of the loggerheads. She relates how some of her principal characters dug up loggerhead eggs freshly laid in unsafe areas and “redeposited” them in clutches safely protected from the illuminating attraction of modern beach development.

Watts says the program has been effective in increasing awareness and helping protect thousand of turtle hatchlings.

“I believe Santee Cooper’s awareness campaign has made a difference in the knowledge locals and visitors have concerning the plight of our sea turtles. My hope is that the awareness is translating into an actual effect on the turtles, and I think it is.”

A “straggler” gets escorted across the beach.

## Turtles Experience Lifespan of Threatened Longevity

While loggerhead turtles commonly live for more than 100 years, the life span for too many of the misguided hatchlings is often less than 100 yards.

Research has shown increasing numbers of the young turtles getting their crawling legs in motion for the first time were quickly meeting their peril when they wandered from the beach into parking lots, highways and away from the ocean. Misguided by instinct, they followed the points of light coming from street lights, residences and commercial buildings, thinking they were the moon reflecting off the surface of the ocean.

The loggerhead turtle is categorized as a threatened species in North America and is likely to become endangered (in danger of extinction) within the foreseeable future in accordance with the U.S. Federal Endangered Species Act.

### Natural Threats

In nature, sea turtles face a host of life and death obstacles. Predators such as raccoons, crabs and ants raid eggs and hatchlings still in the nest. Once they emerge, hatchlings make bite-sized meals for birds, crabs and a host of predators in the ocean. After reaching adulthood, sea turtles are relatively immune to predation, except for the occasional shark attack.

While the natural obstacles faced by young and adult sea turtles are staggering, it is the increasing threats caused by humans that are driving them to extinction.

### Human-Caused Threats

In many cultures around the world, people still harvest sea turtle eggs for consumption. While most countries forbid the taking of eggs, enforcement is lax, poaching is rampant, and the eggs can often

be found for sale in local markets. In these same areas, adult sea turtles are harvested for their meat.

In addition, turtle products, such as jewelry made from shells, also create a direct threat to sea turtles. Buying and selling turtle products within the U.S. is strictly prohibited by law, but turtle-shell jewelry and souvenirs are the most frequent contraband seized by customs officials from tourists returning from the Caribbean.

### Commercial Fishing

The waters of the Gulf of Mexico and West Atlantic coast are a major habitat for turtles, but are also the main shrimping grounds in the U.S. Each year, thousands of turtles become entangled in fishing nets and drown. Worldwide, shrimp trawling probably accounts for the incidental death of more juvenile and adult sea turtles than any other source.

Today, all U.S. shrimpers are required to put Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs) in their trawl nets. Unfortunately, not all fishermen comply with the law, and sea turtles continue to drown in shrimp nets.

Although the problems of exploitation of turtles and habitat destruction seem almost too big to overcome, there are many

things that can be changed, says South Carolina Department of Natural Resource biologist Sally Murphy.

“Greater public awareness and support for sea turtle conservation is the first priority,” says Murphy. “By learning more about sea turtles and the threats they face, you can help by alerting decision-makers when various issues need to be addressed.”

*The tractor-like tracks of a loggerhead returning to the sea.*

# NEWSOURCE

## Santee Cooper Dedicates John S. Rainey Generating Station

On March 22, Santee Cooper dedicated the John S. Rainey Generating Station, the state-owned electric and water utility’s natural gas-fired facility located in the Starr and Iva communities of rural Anderson County.

The station is named for Anderson native John Stringer Rainey, a Columbia tax attorney and businessman. Rainey, a former chairman of the Santee Cooper Board of Directors, serves as chairman of the state’s Board of Economic Advisers.

Rainey challenged Santee Cooper’s board and management to “look ahead and in so doing care for the well-being of this institution by constantly evaluating its mission in light of changes in the industry, shifts in population and the emergence of new technologies.”

Said Rainey, “Any fair and reasonable assessment of your service will be evaluated by whether you keep electric rates low to residents, businesses and industry. For the prosperity of its users of Santee Cooper power is the proof of its great value to all of South Carolina and her people.”

The \$440 million Rainey Station features a 508-megawatt combined-cycle generating unit, two 166-MW simple-cycle combustion turbine units and three 84-MW simple-cycle combustion turbines.

“The clean, efficient 1,092 megawatts of capacity here at the Rainey Station is an invaluable cog in the large and complex wheel that never stops turning and which enables Santee Cooper to meet its statewide mandate,” said T. Graham Edwards, Santee Cooper board chairman.

“This facility, and the electric power it produces, is an important and necessary addition to Santee Cooper’s fleet of power plants,” said Santee Cooper President and Chief Executive Officer Lonnie Carter. “We’re proud of it and the employees who make it run. We are grateful to the wonderful people of Anderson County for so warmly receiving our employees. Thank you for giving us the privilege of being your corporate neighbor.”

Santee Cooper announced plans for the station on Feb. 17, 1999. The 508-MW unit began commercial operation on Jan. 1, 2002, with the two 166-MW units going online several months later. The three 84-MW units began operation on Jan. 1. The Rainey Station units increase Santee Cooper’s total generating capability to 4,499 megawatts of power.





**"I make sure my  
business stays afloat.  
I never go out  
without a life vest."**

Truman Lyon, Fishing Guide  
Santee Cooper Lakes



*Santee Cooper lakes Marion and Moultrie are the state's largest freshwater resource. Created to generate the power to lift rural South Carolina out of the Great Depression, they became the world's first landlocked striped bass fishery and home to a hundred secret swimming holes. Whenever you visit our lakes or any other body of water, be sure to respect them by not littering – and by playing it safe. Visit [www.scwaters.com](http://www.scwaters.com) for boating and swimming safety tips, and information on fishing, lakes navigation, guides, public recreational areas, dining and lodging, rentals, marinas, repairs and shopping. While you're online, explore links to all the ways Santee Cooper works to make life better for everyone in South Carolina.*

# scwaters.com

Visit [www.scwaters.com](http://www.scwaters.com) for more information  
on fishing and water/boating safety.

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